Listing and Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A process for automatically adjusting ~~a time period of~~ a time slot duration of a time slot in a communication channel, comprising the steps of:

determining whether data are being transmitted in ~~a~~ the time slot in said communication channel;

adjusting said time slot duration to a first time period if said data are not being transmitted in said time slot; and

if said data are being transmitted in said time slot, determining whether said data is of a particular packet type, and adjusting said time slot duration in response to the data type determination ~~to a second time period if said data are being transmitted in said time slot~~.

2. (currently amended) The process of claim 3 ~~1~~, wherein said second time period is greater than said first time period.

3. (currently amended) The process of claim 1, wherein if the determined packet type is not of the particular packet type, the second adjusting step adjusts said time slot duration to a second time period ~~further comprising the step of determining whether the data being transmitted comprises a particular packet type~~.

4. (currently amended) A process for automatically adjusting ~~a time period of~~ a time slot duration of a time slot in a communication channel, comprising the steps of:

determining whether data are being transmitted in ~~a~~ the time slot in said communication channel;

determining whether the data being transmitted comprises a particular packet type;

adjusting said time slot duration to a first time period if the data are not being transmitted in said time slot;

adjusting said time slot duration to a second time period if the data are being transmitted in said time slot; and

adjusting said time slot duration to a third time period, if said data comprises a particular packet type.

5. (previously presented) The process of claim 4, wherein said second time period is greater than said first time period.

6. (previously presented) The process of claim 5, wherein said third time period is greater than said first time period.

7. (currently amended) A process of automatically adjusting ~~a time period of~~ a time slot duration of a time slot in a data channel, comprising the steps of:

determining content of ~~a~~ the time slot in said data channel; and

if the content includes a packet, determining whether the packet is of a particular packet type, and adjusting the time slot duration of the time slot in response to the packet type determination ~~the content of the time slot~~.

8. (currently amended) The process of claim 7, wherein if the packet type ~~content~~ is not of a the particular ~~caller ID~~ packet type, the adjusting step increases said time slot duration of said time slot to a predefined duration.

9. (currently amended) The process of claim 7, wherein if the he packet type ~~contentie~~ is of ~~a~~ the particular ~~caller ID~~ packet type, the adjusting step increases said time slot duration of said time slot according to the number of packets in the content with the particular packet type.

10. (previously presented) The process of claim 7, wherein if the content does not include any data, the adjusting step decreases said time slot duration of said time slot.

11. (currently amended) A system for communicating data among different units, comprising:

a data channel having a plurality of time slots for transmitting and receiving data;

each unit comprising a microprocessor coupled to said data channel for monitoring and processing data; and

said microprocessor adjusting a time slot duration of one of said time slots depending on content of the time slot, wherein

if the content includes data, said microprocessor determines whether the data is of a particular data type and adjusts the time slot duration of said one of said time slots in response to the data type determination.

12. (currently amended) The system of claim 11, wherein said microprocessor adjusts the time slot duration to a first time period if the content does not include any data ~~are not transmitted~~, and adjusts the time slot duration to a second time period if the content includes said data but the data type is not of the particular data type ~~are being transmitted~~.

13. (previously presented) The system of claim 12, wherein said second time period is greater than said first time period.

14. (currently amended) The system of claim 12, wherein if the content includes said data and the data type of the particular data type, said microprocessor adjusts the time slot duration is a third time period ~~further determining whether the data being transmitted comprise a particular packet type~~.

15. (previously presented) A system for communicating data among different units, comprising:

a data channel having a plurality of time slots for transmitting and receiving data;

each unit comprising a microprocessor coupled to said data channel for monitoring and processing data;

said microprocessor adjusting a time slot duration of one of said time slots depending on content of the time slot;

wherein said microprocessor adjusts the time slot duration to a first time period if the data are not transmitted, and adjusts the time slot duration to a second time period if data are being transmitted;

wherein said microprocessor further determines whether the data being transmitted comprise a particular packet type; and

wherein said microprocessor adjusts said time slot duration to a third time period, if the data comprise said particular packet type.

16. (previously presented) The system of claim 15, wherein said second time period is greater than said first time period.

17. (previously presented) The system of claim 16, wherein said third time period is greater than said first time period.